

ANNUAL REPORT

— OF THE —
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE

United Districts
of South-West
Cheshire

FOR 1950.



W. J. BIRCHALL, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.
(Medical Officer of Health).

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for the Year 1950.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Joint Committee for the
United Districts of South West Cheshire.*

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Rural Districts of Chester and Tarvin for the year 1950.

The National Vital Statistics show a further decline in the Birth and Infant Mortality Rates. The Death Rate also is slightly lower than in 1949. In Chester Rural District there is a decline in the Birth and Death Rates; the Infant Mortality Rate, whilst higher than in the previous year is well below the average for the rest of the country. In Tarvin Rural District, Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates are all slightly above those recorded in 1949.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified amongst the civil population of either district, although 2 cases were reported amongst Military Personnel stationed in the Chester Rural District. Measles and Whooping Cough were the most prevalent of the Infectious Diseases in both districts. Incidence of other common infectious fevers was low.

Satisfactory progress is being made in the improvement of Rural Water Supplies. Housing and Sewerage Schemes make but slow progress. New Housing Schemes aggravate the urgent need for Sewerage Schemes in several parishes in both Chester and Tarvin Rural Districts. The Sewerage problems of Barrow, Farndon, Kelsall and Tarvin are prominent amongst a number of parishes demanding urgent attention in both districts.

Included at the end of the Report, is my Annual Report as Divisional Medical Officer, on the Personal Health Services operating in the Ellesmere Port Division, of which Chester and Tarvin Rural Districts form part.

I wish to thank the Staffs of the Public Health Departments of both Rural District Councils for their assistance in compiling this Report and their loyal co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. BIRCHALL, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE COMBINED DISTRICTS

Area—106,270

For Birth and Death Rates vide respective districts.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1950 was 15.8 per 1,000 population, compared with 16.7 for 1949.

The Death Rate for England and Wales for 1950 was 11.6 per 1,000 population; the rate for 1949 was 11.7.

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales, i.e., Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births was 29.8; the rate for 1949 was 32.

CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT

Statistics and Social Conditions

SECTION A.

Area—43,677 acres

Population Mid 1950	23,610
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1950) according to Rate Books	5,563
Number of Houses built in 1950	148
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1950	£140,294
Product of 1d. Rate of 1st April, 1950	£555

The Chief Industry of the District is Dairy Farming.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1950

Births:—

Live Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	162	151	313
Illegitimate	3	6	9
Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated civilian population—13.6.			
Using Comparability factor of 1.06, the adjusted Birth Rate is 14.4.			

Still Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births—21.3.

Still Birth-rate per 1,000 civilian population—0.3.

Deaths:—

Male.	Female.	Total.
109	91	200
Death rate per 1,000 population—8.5.		
By use of a Comparability factor of 1.07, the adjusted Death Rate is 9.06.		

Deaths (due to maternal causes):—

Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.
Other Maternal Causes	Nil.

Deaths of infants under one year of age:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	6	—	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Infant Mortality rate, i.e., per 1,000 live births—18.6.			

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	4	—	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough Nil.

Particulars of unusual or excessive mortality during the year:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.	In 1949.
Heart Disease	34	39	73	83
Cancer	20	12	32	27
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	15	17	32	27

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1950

	Male.	Female.
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Measles	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	—
Influenza	1	—
Cancer—all sites	20	12
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	15	17
Heart Disease	34	39
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	2
Bronchitis	1	2
Pneumonia	4	1
Enteritis	—	1
Nephritis	1	—
Syphilitic disease	—	1
Diabetes	1	2
Maternal Causes	—	—
Congenital Malformations	2	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	—
Suicide	1	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	1
All other Accidents	3	—
All other Causes	9	10
	<hr/> 109	<hr/> 91

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Public Health Officers in Chester Rural District

SECTION B.

Medical Officer of Health.	W. J. Birchall, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent and Meat Inspector.	H. E. Stone, M.S.I.A., R.S.I., and Joint Board Certificate for Sanitary Inspector. Liverpool University Certificate for Sanitary Knowledge and Meat and Other Foods. Cambridge University Certifi- cates.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.	J. G. Wilkes, R.S.I., and Joint Board Certificate for Sanitary Inspector. R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods. Liverpool University Certificate for Sanitary Knowledge and Meat and Other Foods.
Pupil Sanitary Inspector.	C. K. Jones. Resigned 23/7/50.
Pupil Sanitary Inspector.	C. Feather. Appointed Sept. 1950.
Clerk/Typists.	Miss B. Crewe. Miss B. Ince.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Since the 5th July, 1948, the Regional Laboratory Service under the Ministry of Health, is available at Birkenhead for free examination of Bacteriological specimens.

The services of the Pathological Department, Chester Royal Infirmary are utilised for Chemical examinations.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious Diseases are now removed to Clatterbridge Isolation Hospital by the Cheshire County Council Ambulances, assisted by the Chester City Ambulances, acting as an Agency Service. Accident and Sick cases are dealt with in like manner. There are no special ambulances for Infectious cases, with the exception of Smallpox.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

Since 5th July, 1948, Home Nursing in the Rural District is undertaken by District Nurses transferred from the District Nursing Association to the Cheshire County Council, which is the Local Health Authority.

(d) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS, including Clinics

solely for diagnosis or consultation. The County Council Clinics are available for residents in this area at:—

- (a) Hoole—Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics. Child Welfare Clinic, Ophthalmic and Dental Clinics.
- (b) Upton—Infant Welfare Clinic.
Saughall—Infant Welfare Clinic.
Barrow—Infant Welfare Clinic.
- (c) Chester—Orthopaedic and Tuberculosis.

(c) HOSPITALS.

The General Hospitals at Chester, Clatterbridge and Liverpool are available for residents in the district as well as Special Treatment Centres in Chester and Liverpool.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES.

Piped water supplies are available in all Parishes in your area with the exception of the Parishes of Croughton and Claverton. There are no dwellings in the latter parish, and the parish of Croughton comprises only six farms and dwellings all of which derive their water supply from wells and boreholes on their own premises. As the result of a complaint of shortage of water, samples were taken from three farms, two of which proved satisfactory but the third proved unsatisfactory and the necessary action taken resulting in a satisfactory supply.

Samples taken from piped supplies of water undertakings in other Parishes of the district showed satisfactory results, and samples taken from mains on your own undertakings, i.e. supplied from Plemstall borehole, have also proved satisfactory, though it continues to be hard having a P.H. value of 7.3 ; the details are as follows :—

Temporary hardness	15.4
Permanent hardness	1.6
	<hr/>
Total hardness ...	17.0
	<hr/>

The number of connections made to your mains for domestic and non-domestic purposes during the year is 27.

Details of the piped supplies afforded in your district from public water mains, together with the estimated population of houses (a) supplied direct or (b) by means of standpipes, are shown in the following tabulation.

Parish	No. of Dwellings	Estimated	
		population Direct	supplied Standpipes
Aldford	93	400	—
Bache	17	72	—
Backford	37	136	—
Barrow	237	931	38
Bridge Trafford	11	43	4
Buerton	17	55	—
Capenhurst	49	200	12
Caughall	3	12	—
Chester Castle	1	3	—
Chorlton-by-Backford	29	85	42
Christleton	387	1644	—
Churton Heath	5	20	—
Claverton	—	—	—
Croughton	6	—	—
Dodleston	80	340	—
Dunham Hill	136	495	60
Eaton	20	74	—
Eccleston	79	324	12
Elton	123	523	—
Great Boughton	940	4230	—
Guilden Sutton	121	519	—
Hapsford	34	144	—
Hoole Village	55	215	20
Huntington	295	1327	—
Lea-by-Backford	58	243	—
Lea Newbold	7	28	—
Ledsham	41	174	—
Littleton	148	591	35
Little Stanney	82	348	—
Lower Kinnerton	38	160	—
Marlston-cum-Lache	29	125	—
Mickle Trafford	98	394	14
Mollington	117	492	5
Moston	13	55	—
Picton	22	95	—
Poulton	30	127	—
Puddington	112	425	24
Pulford	86	361	—
Rowton	76	323	20
Saighton	76	320	—
Saughall	417	1734	30
Shotwick	18	76	—
Shotwick Park	20	85	—
Stoak	23	92	—
Thornton-le-Moors	65	255	24
Upton-by-Chester	1245	5526	41
Wervin	24	98	4
Wimbolds Trafford	33	148	—
Woodbank	27	114	5
	5680	24181	390

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year 174 sewer and drain tests have been carried out; 29 connections have been made to your sewerage systems, whilst 15 Septic Tanks and Filters have been provided, and tests for 130 house drainage systems carried out. A length of Barrel Sewer at Upton Park has been relaid in 9" Glazed Stoneware pipes, and 3 conversions from Septic Tank disposal to your sewerage system at Littleton.

The Sewage Disposal Works constructed to take and treat the sewage from your housing schemes in the Parishes of Backford, Barrow (2), Dunham Hill, Guilden Sutton, Hapsford, Little Stanney, Lower Kinnerton, Mickle Trafford, Mollington and Thornton-le-Moors have been the subject of inspection by a sub-committee who have reported to you on their condition.

These plants have been attended to and maintained in a reasonable state but it is evident that a number of them require improvements and additions if they are to be made to operate effectively; one of the principle defects is the lack of sludge lagoons and draw off valves which prevents the effective desludging of the settlement tanks, another fault is the unsatisfactory media (soft clinker) which has been used for filtration; this has coagulated and in some instances become solid so that percolation is arrested and ponding taking place.

Another distressing feature is that unauthorised persons, presumably children, are constantly interfering with the sprinkler arms on the filter beds, due to the close proximity of the plants to the housing schemes; and children's natural inquisitiveness particularly in something that revolves like a 'merry-go-round' and a natural desire to have a ride, even if self propelled.

It is also apparent that insufficient settlement is taking place and too much solid matter is getting through to the sprinklers thus causing added attention to the plants in the form of almost daily supervision.

My comments of previous years regarding the necessity of provision of adequate sewerage systems for certain Parishes in your area are as important to-day as they have been in the past and the parishes most adversely affected by lack of this service are Barrow, Elton, Dunham Hill, Guilden Sutton, Mickle Trafford, Mollington, Rowton and Stoak.

SAUGHALL.

The approved sewerage scheme for this Parish is now in the hands of Contractors and construction, through somewhat slow, is progressing favourably and from enquiries received from occupiers and owners of property who are anxious to make connections to the sewer, is apparently appreciated.

The temporary works put down to accommodate your Church Road housing scheme has been abolished and the drainage is now connected to the sewer.

BARROW.

Negotiations and the preparation of plans, etc., for the scheme for this Parish have made slow progress and conditions are not improving.

ELTON.

The scheme is still on paper, conditions are worsening and 'Mount Pleasant' is not so pleasant. It is unfortunate that most of Elton is built on rock, the cost of providing such a necessary scheme is undoubtedly made heavier by this factor but now that the immediate area is developing industrially, it may be that this fact will help by virtue of its implications to turn a long felt want into an accomplished fact.

DUNHAM HILL.

The history is well known to you, finances are still low and the cost of excavating rock still high, but these facts are not affording a solution to the problems facing this Parish; and its population is growing.

PIPERS ASH, GULDEN SUTTON, MICKLE TRAFFORD AND MOLLINGTON.

These are Parishes which are still in need of a sewerage scheme. Their history is also well known to you but we must still keep hoping.

ROWTON.

The scheme for this Parish is again before you but the nuisances from outside the Parish will still be with us unless reason prevails, particularly so far as the Moor Lane area is concerned. It is hoped that pride and prejudice will not be allowed to play too great a part in the solution of this problem; apparently public health needs and engineering details are not yet capable of being co-ordinated.

STOAK.

The necessity for the provision of a sewage disposal works for this Parish is undoubtedly appreciated and there are now definite hopes of this necessity becoming an accomplished fact.

DODLESTON AND LOWER KINNERTON.

These are conjoint Parishes and you have housing schemes for both Parishes, one scheme being completed and the other in the course of construction.

The existing sewerage scheme accommodates only a portion of the Parish of Dodleston, and only a portion of your Dodleston Housing scheme. It is recognised that the existing works are overloaded and incapable of improvement. The increase in population of these Parishes and the fouling of watercourses in the area are still evident, and it is my opinion that a joint scheme for these Parishes should now be given careful consideration.

Other Parishes which now have partial sewerage schemes are Aldford, Eccleston, Pulford and Saughton, each with its own disposal works which were handed over to you under the terms of the Public Health Act, 1936.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

These continue to receive attention and steps are taken to prevent their pollution as far as possible.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE.

This service continues to be given to the entire district in so far as it concerns the removal of household refuse. There are five vehicles engaged in this service, four of which are in daily use, whilst the Bantam is used to assist in clearing the military camp and hospital, together with married quarters, also the new housing development at Saughall provided in connection with the housing of key workers for the Capenhurst factory; it is also employed in the collection of waste paper etc., for which a regular market is now available.

The Refuse is disposed of by Controlled Tipping and during the year accommodation tips were used at Christleton where two large pits were filled in to accommodate and at the request of a Farmer; these were only used during fine weather, when it was possible to traverse the field, so that during wet weather, return was made to the approved Tip at Green Lane, Great Boughton. In both places the tipping has been carried out by the approved controlled tipping method.

During the year 7 Preliminary Notices requesting the provision of 7 dustbins were served and complied with.

SALVAGE.

In spite of the revocation of the Waste Paper Order last year you continued to have selected papers collected and baled and a suitable if erratic market was found for it. Quantities disposed of were small but the outlet was kept open. In September the general public were again asked to save waste paper and local authorities were asked again to collect and segregate, and the position is improving.

Details of the collections disposed of are as follows:—

	T.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	23	9	1	—	126	8	4
Textiles	—	4	1	—	2	13	1
Metal	—	10	2	—	1	6	3
	24	4	—	—	£130	7	8

Compared with last year the above figures show an even worse return, but in December a communication was received from the Waste Paper Recovery Association of their intention to promote a National Waste Paper Contest for the year 1951 in which you decided to participate.

SHOPS.

There are few shops in your district which employ labour, consequently it has not been necessary to take any action under the Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation, temperature, or the provision of sanitary conveniences.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Observations were made during the year but it was not necessary to take any action.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are not any Public or privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public, situate in your district.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

It has not been necessary to rid any premises of these pests during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

There are 53 such premises on your registers including The Ministry of Supply Depots at Capenhurst, Bridge Trafford and Hapsford and the M.E.C. Factory at Thornton-le-Moors.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

Since 1945 you have erected 329 houses which are occupied and there are 88 houses in course of construction at 31st December, 1950.

Details of completed houses and houses in course of construction are as follows:—

Parish	Total No. of Houses to be erected.	No. of Houses erected and occupied at 31.12.50	No. of Houses in course of construction at 31.12.50
Backford	20	4	9
Barrow	38	18	—
Capenhurst	22	—	—
Christleton	90	31	9
Dodleston	27	—	16
Dunham-on-the-Hill	36	14	10
Elton	24	18	6
Great Boughton	61	30	—
Guilden Sutton	30	14	—
Hapsford	6	6	—
Huntington	26	10	6
Lea-by-Backford	8	8	—
Lea Newbold	2	2	—
Little Stanney	6	6	—
Lower Kinnerton	10	10	—
Mickle Trafford	22	12	—
Mollington	8	—	—
Pulford	8	4	4
*Saughall	166	68	28
Stoak	10	4	—
Thornton-le-Moors	14	14	—
Upton-by-Chester	96	56	—
	<hr/> 730	<hr/> 329	<hr/> 88

* Includes 156 houses to be built for the Ministry of Supply to house Key workers at Capenhurst Factory.

In order to dispose of the sewage from these schemes where no sewers are provided, you have provided sewage disposal works in the following Parishes to deal with the housing schemes alone.

Backford, Lea-by-Backford, Lea Newbold, Little Stanney, Stoak, Barrow (2 works), Dunham Hill, Elton, Guilden Sutton, Hapsford, Lower Kinnerton, Mickle Trafford, Mollington and Thornton-le-Moors.

The first mentioned five schemes and the Broomhill scheme at Barrow are of the Septic Tank type whilst the remainder are all mechanically operated.

It is regrettable that adverse reports have had to be made as to the efficiency of these works, but it is hoped that as a result of action taken by your Committee of Inspection, more effective filtration will take place when the improvements recommended by your Consulting Engineers have been carried out.

One noticeable factor is that due to the close proximity of the works to the housing schemes in some instances, unwarranted interference with the works by unauthorised persons has been the cause of breakdowns at the plants, which has necessitated added attention to them. A favourite passtime would appear to be the using of the spreader arms as 'merry-go-rounds' by the children.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSE DURING THE YEAR

1.	(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	221
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	534
	(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 (Rural Housing Survey)	Nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
	(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
	(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	72
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:—	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer	68
	Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
	(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	3
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
	(a) By Owners	3
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
	(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	69
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
	(a) By owners	69
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

Hutted Camps.

The six camps for which you act as Agents on behalf of the Ministry of Health continue in being, the Camps at Church Lane, Upton and Thornton-le-Moors are gradually being reduced in numbers, both of hutments and occupiers, and at the end of the year these camps comprised 40 hutments, with a total population of 150 persons.

It is apparent that all the hutments are fast approaching the end of their usefulness, and to keep them wind and weather-proof is becoming more difficult.

Details of the Camps, at 31st December, 1950, are as follows:—

	No. of occupied Hutments	No. of Adult Occupants	No. of Child Occupants	Total Occupants
1. Wheatfield Camp, Littleton	8	19	16	35
2. Victory Villas, Newton Lane, Upton	8	16	13	29
3. N.F.S. Camp Church Lane, Upton ..	3	6	6	12
4. Chapel House Camp, Puddington	14	28	13	41
5. Meadow Villas, Thornton-le-Moors	5	10	14	24
6. Powey Lane Camp, Capenhurst	2	4	5	9
	<hr/> 40	<hr/> 83	<hr/> 67	<hr/> 150

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk and Dairies Act 1949.

Under the Special Designations Orders made under this Act, the following Licences were issued by you during 1950:—

Distributors Regulations	9
Dealers Supplementary (Pasteurised & Sterilised) 1950	6
Dealers Supplementary (Tub. Tested & Accredited) ...	4
Dealers Licences (Pasteurised & Sterilised)	6
Dealers Licences (Tub. Tested & Accredited)	3
Total ...	<hr/> 28

Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 14.

Ice Cream. On the register there are at the end of the year, 5 additional names as retailers of Ice Cream, making a total of 23 and 2 manufacturers.

Prepared Foods. There are on your register 11 persons and premises registered for the purpose of manufacture of preserved

foods intended for sale. Irregular inspections of the premises have been made and minor improvements carried out. The standard of preparation and storage can be classed as satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION

The centralised slaughterhouse at Shed Lane for the slaughter of Pigs under the Bacon Board Slaughter Scheme continues in operation and regular visits are made each week. Details of the carcasses inspected are as follows:—

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned

Meat Inspection	Beasts	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number slaughtered	—	—	—	1803	1803
Number inspected	—	—	—	1803	1803
All Diseases except Tuberculosis:—					
Whole Carcasses condemned	—	—	—	1	1
Carcasses of which part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	92	92
Percentage of the number in- spected, affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	—	—	—	5.1%	5.1%
Tuberculosis only:—					
Whole Carcasses condemned	—	—	—	3	3
Carcase of which part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	86	86
Percentage of the number in- spected, affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	4.9%	4.9%
Meat—Weight condemned: 19 cwts. 2 qrts. 25 lbs.					
Other Foods—Weight condemned: 3 cwts. 1 qt. 1lb.					

List of Samples for analysis obtained in the Chester Rural District during the year ended 31st December, 1950

Name of Sample	Number ob ained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Beef Suet	1	—
Brandy	1	—
Coffee	1	—
Epsom Salts	1	—
Fish Paste	1	—
Honey	1	—
Ice Cream	2	—
Milk	22	9
Mustard	1	—
Rum	1	—
	<hr/> 32 <hr/>	<hr/> 9 <hr/>

Particulars of Non-Standard Samples.

No.	Sample.	Result of analysis.	Remarks.
1	Milk	2.7% deficient in non-fatty solids. Genuine but abnormal.	No action.
2	„	10% deficient in fat.	Farmer-retailer cautioned.
3	„	6.6% —do—	—do—
4	„	Practically 5% deficient in non-fatty solids.	One sample out of each of four churns in course of delivery from a farmer to a Dairy Company.
5	„	14% of extraneous water.	Summonses issued in respect of Nos. 5 & 6 resulted
6	„	4.5% —do—	in farmer being fined £10
7	„	2.5% deficient in non-fatty solids. Genuine but abnormal.	and £9-9-0 costs for No. 5 sample and fine of £6 in respect of sample No. 6.
8	„	2.2% —do—	See corresponding appeal
9	„	2.2% —do—	to cow samples Nos. 8 & 9.

Whilst the percentage of milk samples failing to reach the standard is exceptionally high, it must not be overlooked that six of the nine samples reported against, concerned only one producer.

The above report was kindly sent by Mr. Stacey Hallard, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, Cheshire County Council.

SECTION F.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.**

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year
1950.

	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Pneumonia	11	4	—
Scarlet Fever	19	14	—
	(including 8 Military)	(including 8 Military)	
Erysipelas	1	1	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	1	1	—
	(Military)		
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	—
Diphtheria	2	2	—
	(Military)		
Dysentery	5	2	—
Para-Typhoid	1	1	—
	(Military)		
Food Poisoning	2	—	—
Whooping Cough	46	—	—
Measles	117	—	—
	<hr/> 206	<hr/> 25	<hr/> —

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during the year 1951.

Age Periods	NEW CASES			DEATHS		
	Respiratory M. F.	Non- Respiratory M. F.	Total M. & F.	Respiratory M. F.	Non- Respiratory M. F.	Total M. & F.
0-1	— —	1 1	2	— —	— —	—
1-5	— —	— —	—	— —	— —	—
5-15	— 1	— 1	2	— —	— —	—
15-25	1 3	— —	4	— —	1 —	1
25-35	— 3	— —	3	— —	— —	—
35-45	3 2	— —	5	1 1	— —	2
45-55	1 1	— —	2	1 —	— —	1
55-65	1 1	— —	2	1 —	— —	1
65 & upwards	— —	— —	—	— —	— —	—
Age unknown	— —	— —	—	— —	— —	—
Totals	6 11	1 2	20	3 1	1 —	5

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.**Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.**

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	67	36	3	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	67	36	3	—

Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	No of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	3	3	—	3	—

TARVIN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 31st December, 1950

SECTION A.

(1) Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area—62,593 acres.

Population, estimated by Registrar General, mid-year 1950	14,520
Number of inhabited houses including shops with living accommodation according to Rate Books (end of 1950)	4,450
Number of houses built (i.e. completed in 1950)—	
Private Enterprise	15
Council Houses	50
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1950	£74,964
Product of rd. Rate at 1st April, 1950	£294

The area is almost entirely agricultural and residential, farming being the largest labour-employing occupation. There are no other large industries.

(2) Extracts from Vital Statistics for 1950

BIRTHS.

Live Births.	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	137	117	254
Illegitimate	6	2	8
	<hr/> 143	<hr/> 119	<hr/> 262

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 18.04

Still Births.	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 7

Rate per 1,000 live and still births 26.02

Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ... 0.48

Registrar General's Comparability Factor for Births 1.05

DEATHS.

	Male 99	Female 86	Total 185
Natural increase in population (excess of births over deaths)			77
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			12.741
Registrar General's Comparability Factor for Deaths			0.92
Maternal Mortality (excluding Abortion):—			
From Puerperal Sepsis			Nil
From Other Puerperal or Maternal Causes			Nil

(3) Infant Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:—

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 7
Infantile Mortality Rate i.e. deaths of infants under one year 1,000 live births			26.7
The rate in 1949 was			23.08

Deaths of infants under FOUR WEEKS of age:—

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 6
Rate per 1,000 live births			22.9

(4) Deaths from Certain Selected Causes

	Males.	Females.
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	3	—
Other forms of tuberculosis	—	—
Cancer of all sites	15	13
Diabetes	1	—
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	13	15
Heart disease	40	31
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	1
Bronchitis	1	4
Pneumonia	—	3
Other respiratory diseases	1	—
Ulcer of stomach duodenum	1	—

	Males.	Females.
Nephritis	4	2
Premature birth	—	—
Congenital malformations; Birth injuries	—	1
Suicide	—	—
Road traffic accidents	4	—
Other violent causes	3	1
All other causes	11	15
Total all causes	99	86

Deaths from Cancer (all sites) numbered 28. In the previous year there were 23.

Deaths from Heart Disease numbered 71 compared with 63 in 1949.

Deaths from Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions were 28, there were 32 in 1949.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(1) Public Health Officers in the Tarvin Rural District

Medical Officer of Health.

W. J. Birchall, M.B., Ch.B. (Hons.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
L.R.C.P. (London), D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Rodent Officer.

G. T. Woods, M.R.San.I., M.I.San.E., M.S.I.A. ; Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, R.S.I. & S.I.E. Joint Board; Meat and Other Foods Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Certificate of the R.S.I. in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works; Examination of Institution of Sanitary Engineers; Home Office Civil Defence Instructor's Certificate.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors.

G. P. Walpole, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, R.S.I. & S.I.E. Jt. Bd. ; Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute; R. Mason, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, R.S.I. & S.I.E. Jt. Bd.; Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute; Home Office Civil Defence Instructor's Certificate.

Pupil Sanitary Inspector.

G. P. Davies.

Clerk-Typist.

Miss Dorothy Hughes.

Junior Clerk.

Miss Norma Walker.

Rodent Operative.

Mr. E. H. Blackburn.

(2) Medical Services

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The services of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Birkenhead, and of Harold Lowe, Esq., M.Sc., F.I.C., Assay Office, are utilised for bacteriological and chemical examinations respectively.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

Cases of infectious disease are removed to Clatterbridge Isolation Hospital, Clatterbridge. Cases of sickness are removed to the Chester Royal Infirmary or the General Hospital, Clatterbridge, by the ambulances of the Cheshire County Council, supplemented by the Chester City Ambulances as an Agency Service.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

There are District Nurses engaged in all the larger villages for attendance on the sick.

The trained Health Visitors of the County Council also visit the homes in the District for the purposes of advice, inspection and assistance under the maternity, child-welfare and tuberculosis schemes.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics, including clinics solely for the area are as follows :—

Farndon, Tattenhall, Tarvin, Kelsall and Malpas—Infant Welfare.

Hoole—Ante and Post-Natal, Infant Welfare, Orthopaedic, Dental and Speech Therapy.

Chester—Orthopaedic and Tuberculosis.

Northwich—Scabies Treatment.

(e) Hospitals.

The General Hospital at Clatterbridge is available for residents in the area.

There are, in addition, smaller Cottage Hospitals in the neighbourhood, which receive patients from the area, viz :— Tarporley and Whitchurch.

Larger hospitals are also available in Chester and Liverpool ; for example, the Chester Royal Infirmary, Chester City Hospital, etc.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(1) Water

Piped supplies of water are available in the following Parishes of the District :—

<i>Parishes.</i>	<i>Supply.</i>
1. Ashton, Mouldsworth and Horton-cum-Peel.	Tarvin R.D.C.'s own source from Springs.
2. Kelsall, Tarvin, Pryors Hayes, part of Bruen Stapleford, most of Dud-don and Hockenhull.	Tarvin R.D.C. bulk supply from Mid and South-East Cheshire Water Board (Eddisbury Bore-hole).
3. Iddenshall and Clotton Hoofield.	Tarvin R.D.C. bulk supply from Liverpool Corporation Vyrnwy Aqueduct per Mid and South-East Cheshire Water Board's mains.
4. Tiverton, Tilstone Fearnall and Beeston.	Tarvin R.D.C. bulk supply from Liverpool Corporation.
5. Tattenhall, Huxley and part of Newton-by-Tattenhall, part of Golborne Bellow and part of Hatton.	do.
6. Hampton, part of Edge, and Macefen.	do.
7. Malpas, Cuddington, part of Chorlton and part of Wychough.	Liverpool Corporation.
8. Part of Chorlton.	Private Estate Supply, borehole and small Reservoir, Chorlton Hall.
9. Farndon, Churton-by-Farndon, Churton-by-Aldford and Edgerly.	Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company.

<i>Parishes.</i>	<i>Supply.</i>
10. Part of Edge. Part of Edge.	Private Estate Supply, Edge Hall Tarvin R.D.C. bulk supply from Liverpool Corporation.
11. Waverton.	Egg Bridge Area — Chester Waterworks Company.
12. Cotton Edmunds.	Eaton Estate.
13. Willington.	Willington Estate.
14. Aldersey and Coddington.	Aldersey Estate.
15. Barton, Stretton, Carden and part of Clutton.	Carden Estate.
16. Harthill.	Bolesworth Estate, from Tarvin R.D.C. mains.
17. Bickley.	Tarvin R.D.C. from Liverpool Corporation, Vyrnwy Aqueduct per Mid and South-East Cheshire Water Board's mains.
18. Broxton.	do.
19. Burwardsley.	do.
20. Shocklach (Part).	Tarvin R.D.C. borehole and ele- vated tank.
21. Tilston Council Houses.	Private—Ditto.
22. Tushingham (Part).	Tarvin R.D.C. bulk supply from Liverpool Corporation.
23. Threapwood.	do.

The water supplied by the Liverpool Corporation is from The Lake Vyrnwy Aqueduct and has a total hardness of 1.2 parts per 100,000 and pH value of 6.45.

The water supplied by the Mid and South-East Cheshire Water Board is from the Eddisbury borehole and has an average hardness of 16 parts per 100,000 and a pH value of 7.5.

The water supplied by the Wrexham and East Denbigshire Water Company is obtained from (a) Moorland gathering grounds (b) mountain adits and (c) boreholes. The average total hardness is about 8 parts per 100,000, with a pH value of 7.3.

The water supplied by the Chester Waterworks Company is derived from The River Dee and has a total hardness of 7 parts per 100,000, and a pH value of 7.27.

Extensions to the existing mains are being planned and carried out as fast as the supply of materials and labour conditions permit; priority is being given where the need is greatest, and bearing in mind the recommendations of the Cheshire Agricultural Executive Committee in respect of agricultural demands. The

scheme for Milton Green and Handley via Golborne Bellow is proceeding. The scheme for Threapwood has been almost completed.

During the year, a further 7 miles of water main were laid by the Council in the District and in consequence the Council now administer approximately 83 miles of mains.

The additional new mains are as follows :—

Parish.	Yards.
Threapwood (Remaining part completed) ...	7100
Tattenhall (Part Milton-Green, Handley Scheme)	690
Hatton—do.	1190
Golborne David—do.	1470
Handley—do.	950
Tiverton (Housing Estate)	98
Tattenhall, Gatesheath-Rookery (Part)	323
Clutton	210
Ashton (Gongar Lane)	330
Tarvin (Hockenhull Avenue)	119
	<hr/>
	12430

The following fresh connections were made to the mains during the year :—

Parish.	Domestic	Trade	Total
Bickley	1	1	2
Broxton	1	—	1
Cuddington	—	8	8
Clotton Hoofield	—	1	1
Golborne Bellow	—	1	1
Macefen	—	1	1
Malpas	1	5	6
Norbury	—	1	1
Tattenhall	—	1	1
Tarvin	2	2	4
Tushingham	1	2	3
Threapwood	33	29	62
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	39	52	91

Particulars of the number of premises supplied by the Council's mains at December, 1950, are as follows:—

Parish.	Domestic	Trade	Total
Ashton	108	5	113
Beeston	51	24	75
Bickley	77	52	129
Broxton	99	39	138
Burwardsley	50	43	93
Chorlton-Cuddington	13	23	36
Chowley	4	—	4
Clotton Hoofield, Duddon and Iddenshall	35	17	52
Clutton	—	1	1
Edge (Part)	17	—	17
Golborn Bellow	16	2	18
Hampton	63	38	101
Horton-cum-Peel	7	—	7
Huxley	22	13	35
Kelsall	249	30	279
Larkton	4	1	5
Malpas	321	57	378
Mouldsworth	60	10	70
Macefen	13	4	17
Newton-by-Tattenhall	12	8	20
Norbury	—	1	1
Shocklach	11	1	12
Tarvin, Stapleford, Pryors Hayes and Hockenhull ...	369	72	441
Tattenhall	202	55	257
Threapwood	33	29	62
Tilston	12	—	12
Tilstone Fearnall	21	6	27
Tiverton	108	35	143
Tushingham	3	6	9
Wychough	—	2	2
	<hr/> 1980	<hr/> 574	<hr/> 2544

Number of Standpipes supplied from the mains:—

Parish	No. Consumers	
Edge	1	35
Beeston	1	19
Hampton	3	20
Newton-by-Tattenhall	1	15
	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 89

Number of premises supplied by other Public Water Undertakings for which figures are available are as follows :—

Parish.	Domestic	Trade	Total	Undertaking.
Waverton	79	8	87	Chester Waterworks Company.
Edgerley	1	—	1	Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company.
Churton-by-Aldford ...	50	2	52	do.
Farndon	151	4	155	do.
Churton-by-Farndon...	27	—	27	do.
	<hr/> 308	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 322	

Estimated Population supplied :—

By Tarvin R.D.C	8223
By Chester Waterworks Company	368
By Wrexham & East Denbighshire Water Company	920
	<hr/> 9511

This represents approximately 65 per cent. of the total population of the district supplied by mains water. A number of consumers however, are supplied by Estate Supplies, Private Systems, and boreholes, etc. The actual percentage of water consumers with supplies laid on is considerably in excess of this figure.

Further Water Schemes approved and for which materials are awaited, are :—

Malpas-Tilston Scheme as far as Kidnall Farm.
Top Farm Bradley.
Gatesheath-Tattenhall (Chester Road).
Northern Area.
Newton-by-Tattenhall.

Schemes submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Malpas-Agden-Wigland.
Hatton Water Scheme.
Malpas (Castle Hill Scheme).
Malpas-Tilston (Kidnall Farm to Tilston Section).
Clotton Hoofield and Huxley.
Kelsall, Common Lane.
Bruen Stapleford, Old Moss Lane.
Kelsall, Flat Lane.

A total of one hundred and sixty water samples was taken during the year, made up of one hundred and ten samples taken from local supplies and fifty from the Council's Mains. These were analysed at the Public Health Laboratory, Birkenhead.

The classification of results of water analyses is made as suggested in the Ministry of Health's Report on "The Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies"—based on the Presumptive Coli count taken in conjunction with the type of supply.

WATERS ARE GRADED AS FOLLOWS:—

		Presumptive Coli per 100 ml.
Treated Waters.		
Class 1.	Highly Satisfactory	Less than 1
2.	Satisfactory	1-2
3.	Suspicious	3-10
4.	Unsatisfactory	Over 10

Untreated Waters.

Class A.	Satisfactory	Under 10
B.	Fairly Satisfactory	10-25
C.	Suspicious	25-50
D.	Unsatisfactory	50-75
E.	Very Unsatisfactory	Over 75

During the year regular samples were taken from every main supply of the Statutory Undertakers.

All the areas without a mains supply were covered and in any case of adverse results, full reports have been given to your Works and Planning Committee for their consideration of main extensions.

50 samples were taken from supplies of statutory undertakers.

- 43 were Highly Satisfactory or Class I.
- 3 were Fairly Satisfactory or Class II.
- 2 were Suspicious or Class III.
- 2 were Unsatisfactory or Class IV.

The 4 unsatisfactory samples were taken from supplies on recently extended lengths of mains. Flushing out of these mains resulted in repeat samples proving Class I.

(2) Drainage and Sewerage.

New Schemes prepared to be submitted for approval to the Ministry during the year:—

Clifton	114 persons
Ashton	350 persons

Schemes completed during the year :—

Tarvin (Council's Housing Estate) including construction of temporary disposal works	175 persons.
Gatesheath (including Sewage Disposal Works)	85 „
Tattenhall, Keysbrook (Sewers only)	50 „
Kelsall (Hallowsgate Housing Estate) including construction of temporary disposal works	175 „
Nomansheath (Back Lane extension) Sewers only	70 „
Tiverton, including Sewage Disposal Works	72 „

VILLAGE (LARGER) SCHEMES.

The Scheme for the Sewerage of Waverton which has been submitted to the Ministry of Health is still in abeyance pending a decision on the County Council proposals for a joint scheme with the Chester Rural District Council.

KELSALL.

Preliminary works have been carried out on the preparation of this scheme.

FARNDON.

The Ministry of Health have given approval in principle to this scheme and authorised the Council to proceed with the preparation of quantities and sanction was given for the Council to invite tenders for the erection of the Works. The Ministry undertook to make a grant under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act of the sum of £18,000 towards the cost of this scheme.

It is obvious that the provision of water mains giving an unlimited supply to premises previously supplied from a well with limited resources aggravates and extends nuisances resulting from unsatisfactory drainage. The increasing number of water closets, sinks and baths that are being installed by owners and occupiers, consequent on mains water becoming available where restricted supplies existed previously, gives rise to concern as to the disposal of foul drainage, especially in built up areas.

With regard to drainage proposals in connection with new buildings, there is close co-operation between the Surveyor's and the Public Health Departments. Plans of new buildings and extensions to existing buildings deposited with the Council's Surveyor are sent to the Public Health Department for examination and approval as to the drainage disposal arrangements. It

is quite common for plans of a dwelling to be deposited showing lines of drainage ending in an arrow marked "To septic tank and filter," when investigation on the site shows that there is insufficient fall for a filter and often no satisfactory means provided for disposal of the effluent.

This emphasis on the efficiency of any proposed treatment works to isolated premises will bring good results in preventing excessive pollution of ditches and water courses which has been so common in past years.

The calls on the services of your Sanitary Officers for advice in the construction and layout of treatment works to such isolated buildings is increasing. In addition to their academic qualifications they have the advantage of being in everyday contact with small disposal schemes under varying conditions, and they test and observe the comparative efficiency of different types of works.

Education in hygiene and cleanliness has given rise to general demand for modern sanitary fittings and appliances, and the Public Health Department is anxious to encourage better conditions throughout the district wherever possible, to improve sanitary environment and to lessen the risk of nuisance from drainage effluents.

A long standing nuisance from the effluent of the cheese factory at Hampton has now been practically eliminated.

The owners have installed a modern treatment works on the lines of the recommendations of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, who have published results of an experimental plant constructed specially to deal with milk and whey wastes, which have a very high pollution load.

The principle involved is the recirculation of effluent and alternating double filtration.

The plant was completed at the end of the year and will need to settle down to ascertain its optimum rate of dosage for best results.

I must record my Department's appreciation of the willingness of the owners to carry out the scheme despite its high cost; and the co-operation of their technical staff with the Council's officials in the design of this plant.

During the year one hundred and forty-two drainage plans were deposited and approved. All involved visits of your inspectors to the sites and a great many incorporated amendments and improvements suggested as a result of such inspections.

Rivers and Streams.

I regret to report that at the close of the year little progress has been made with the proposed sewerage scheme for the village

of Farndon, which is the only cure for the serious pollution of the River Dee. It is to be hoped that the Ministry permit this work to proceed at the earliest possible date.

Complaints have been received from time to time regarding the foul state of the stream at Kelsall into which a great deal of sewage from Delamere is discharged, as well as both crude and settled sewage from premises in Kelsall itself. Here again the installation of a main sewerage scheme for Kelsall, which has been talked about for far too long, is an urgent necessity.

General Sanitation.

Closet Accommodation.

New dwelling houses erected during the year by both private enterprise and the Council have all been supplied with water closets. In addition your Sanitary Officers have been very busy on conversion of pail and privvy middens to water closets in the several cases of older premises having improvements carried out to their internal sanitation.

During the year a further 18 pail closets and 3 privy middens were converted to water carriage. 91 new water closets were also installed.

In addition the conversion of 12 Council Houses from pail closets to water closets was carried out at Nomansheath.

The approximate figures for the whole district at the end of 1950 were :—

Privy Middens	536
Pail Closets	1881
Water Closets	2090
	<hr/>
	4507
	<hr/>

Refuse and Salvage.

This important sanitary service is administered by the Chief Sanitary Inspector who is in charge of the Council's own workmen and vehicles.

The whole district is served by a regular fortnightly collection.

At present two Austin 7 cu. yd. and one Dennis 10 cu. yd. wagons, all of the side loading type are used, but it is very evident that the amount of refuse being moved is increasing year by year as householders and owners purchase dustbins where previously they had disposed of their own refuse and collections were only necessary infrequently. This increase in tonnage is demonstrated by the fact that whereas two or three years ago a 7 cu. yd. wagon was amply sufficient to take the contents of bins on a scheduled round there is now being experienced difficulty in accommodating the contents of the bins of the same round, on the same wagon.

During the year many more dustbins have been supplied by private owners in place of unsuitable containers at the request of the department, without recourse to Statutory action. In addition the Council have supplied from stock held at their depot 54 bins to private owners and 41 to Council Houses, a total of 95.

Several hundred bins supplied over the last few years to both new Council Houses and private owners is a further indication of the fact that more residents are taking advantage of this service provided by the Council.

In consequence any replacement of the two smaller wagons will be by a larger 10 cu. yd. size to accommodate the increase in tonnage.

During the year the Council approved plans of a new garage, service and salvage depot, proposed to be built at Tattenhall Road, to replace the existing temporary and unsatisfactory accommodation in Tattenhall village.

The proposals are with the Ministry at the time of this report and it is hoped that their early approval will be forthcoming, followed by energetic action to get the building to take practical form.

The Tarvin Rural District is fortunate in having adequate facilities for the cheap and efficient disposal of refuse by controlled tipping. This method has the dual advantage of saving heavy expenses of incineration and in reclaiming disused land for agricultural use. During the year one tip at Waverton was completed, sealed and soiled, and is now under cultivation. New tips were offered and accepted at Waverton, Bickley, and Golbourne Bellow. The Council do not pay for the use of these tips but undertake to rough seal and treat against vermin while the tip is in use by the Council. The owner of the land on the other hand agrees to soil the tip surface when tipping is completed, and seed as necessary.

At the close of the year tips were in use at Clotton, Barton, and Malpas, in addition to the three new sites mentioned. Only at Barton and Malpas is a small fee paid to the owners for the right to tip.

Salvage.

The restricted salvage service which is run in conjunction with the refuse collection and not as a separate project, has been continued in conformity with the decision of the Council. To inaugurate a full salvage collection as was carried on up to 1948 would entail the employment of more labour and at least one extra vehicle.

The urgent requests of the Ministry for the collection of salvage particularly excludes Rural Districts, and it is very doubtful whether a full salvage collection service could be run without

serious loss and a consequent charge on the rates. At present the salvage collection is restricted to waste paper, rags, metals and bones, which can be collected on the normal round as the refuse is picked up. Bottles and jars are no longer brought into the depot, as accumulated stock of several thousands had to be tipped to clear the depot for much needed space. Bottles and jars could neither be sold nor given away.

It must be emphasised that the service is primarily for the collection of refuse as a public health service and if special arrangements are to be made to increase the salvage collection by an increase in staff and plant, the Council should be satisfied that such an increase is justified by the return.

Details of each class of salvaged material sold in the financial year ending March 31st, 1951, compared with the previous twelve months are as follows :—

	1950-51.	Previous Year.
Waste Paper	174 5 9	227 5 6
Scrap Metal	14 0 0	11 10 0
Rags and Sacking	40 5 2	60 6 9
Bones	2 13 10	3 7 7
	<hr/> £231 4 9	<hr/> 302 9 10

The nett cost of the Refuse and Salvage Service during the year ending March 31st, 1951, was :—£3,590 15s. 7d.

This is equivalent to a 1/- rate.

Unit Costs.

Nett Cost per ton of refuse collected, £1 1s. 3d.

Nett Cost per 1,000 premises served, £807 per annum.

Nett Cost per 1,000 per population, £20 12s. 2d. per month.

Nett Cost per head of population, 5d. per month.

These costs compare favourably with those of similar Rural Districts which operate regular collections over their whole area.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Your Sanitary Inspectors have carried out much good work in the district in a quiet and efficient manner without recourse to the use of official notices. In most cases where complaints are investigated your sanitary officers make verbal requests for any work required with an explanation of why this should be done and expert advice as how work should be carried out. Every assistance is given to the person or persons concerned on technical matters, and only in very rare cases has it been necessary to report the defaulter to the Public Health Committee with a view to Statutory Action. Usually the mere threat of Statutory Action brings about compliance with the Council's wishes.

The following list gives an indication of part of their activities during 1950 where such are not dealt with elsewhere in this report.

Informal Notices served re housing defects	45
" " " " unsatisfactory water supply	4
" " " " defective drainage	23
" " " " dirty conditions	5
" " " " provision of dustbins	10
" " " " insanitary closets	8
" " " " foul ditches	2
" " " " leaking gutters and downspouts	5
" " " " offensive accumulations	10
" " " " Food and Drugs Act, 1938	4
" " " " rat infestations	3
" " " " defects in factories	7
" " " " Petroleum Spirit stores	18
" " " " Food premises	20
" " " " Licensed premises	8
No. of written complaints received from the public	285
No. of inspections made (all purposes)	3751

Shops.

During the year the Shops Act, 1950, came into operation.

This was a consolidating measure and did not alter the responsibilities of this Council in respect to the ventilation, lighting, temperature, and sanitary accommodation of shops in the district, where labour is employed.

Only in one case of defective and dirty sanitary accommodation was action found necessary and this was dealt with informally and the necessary work done.

Factories.

Ninety-four factories are on the register. These include twenty-two non-power and seventy power (including 10 building sites). Following inspection written notices relating to sanitary conveniences were served on seven occupiers. All requirements were complied with, without statutory action.

One case of insufficient sanitary conveniences brought to notice during 1949 and reported in my last report, has been satisfactorily dealt with during 1950.

Outworkers.

There were two outworkers on the register during 1950 and inspection of their premises showed satisfactory conditions for home making up of textiles.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Notices served.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	22	26	Nil.
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	62	74	—
(iii) Roadwork and Building Sites ...	10	36	—
Totals ...	94	136	—

Camping Sites.

The past policy of the Council has been continued, pending effective legislation, to refrain from issuing licences under the Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of both sites or individual moveable dwellings. The camping site at Weetwood continues; but consultations have taken place with the County Council and the Ministries concerned as to the best action to be taken to check the continued development of this site. The use of the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, will be used in this case which is complicated by the fact that several isolated plots of land have been sold to each individual camper. In some cases the caravan is let to a third party by the caravan owner as a source of income. On the site at Farndon the number of dwellings has not appreciably increased, and no complaints as to nuisance have been received. Here again Planning Control is necessary to prevent abuse.

The Council have taken action to secure the removal of unauthorised bus bodies, etc., brought into the district, which occurs undoubtedly as a result of the acute housing shortage. While the Tarvin Rural District must be protected from the point of view of Public Health and its amenities against the indiscriminate stationing without permission, of bus bodies and shacks in the centre of beauty spots, it must also be recognised that the practice of genuine short term holiday camping as distinct from permanent camping is increasing in this country. The beauty of our rural district is an inducement to city people to spend a few days in rural parts. Well behaved campers should not be discouraged or victimised because of the untidy and dirty habits of the few undesirables who dump any kind of vehicle on any vacant spot without regard to elementary hygiene, and who try to take up permanent residence with all the resulting problems to the Public Health and Planning Departments.

Squatters.

The old army camp at Beeston, which consists of four wooden huts and one nissen hut used as a wash-house, is still occupied by four families (8 adults, 10 children). Each hut is fitted with one or two slow combustion stoves, and is provided with a separate pail closet chamber, and a separate dustbin. There is a mains water supply to a standpipe on the site, and an extension to a tap in the wash-house. Refuse collection is carried out fortnightly. This accommodation is sub-standard and can be tolerated only as a temporary measure until the housing situation is improved.

Swimming Baths.

There are no public swimming baths in the District.

Smoke Abatement.

Observations were carried out from time to time on various commercial chimneys but no grounds for action were reported.

Eradication of Insect Vermin.

Where premises are found infested with bed bugs, treatment with Zaldicide/D.D.T. spray is used and found effective.

Gammexane powder is issued to tenants whose dwellings show evidence of cockroaches.

Wetttable D.D.T. to mix with limewash is sold at cost, to the occupiers of slaughter-houses and similiar premises in the District, to minimise the fly nuisance in the hot weather.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

Prior to April 1st the Council operated delegated powers from the County Council under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, which has now been repealed.

Since then the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, has operated, under which the District Council has direct powers and responsibilities to carry out inspections of premises and land in the district and to enforce treatment where found necessary.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries have approved the Council's staff arrangements. The Chief Sanitary Inspector administers the service. A full time trained Rodent Operative is employed, and the services of a further man is utilised on the the work occasionally to assist in larger treatments and to keep records. The Ministry's recommended methods are used. Occupiers of business premises are required to bear the full cost of any treatments needed. Private houses are treated for a nominal fee. The Council's several tips, sewers, sewerage works, and other properties are regularly inspected and disinfected as found necessary.

It should be recorded that the present operative has proved very successful in satisfying users of the Council's service and in the destruction of rats and mice. As an example one large works in the district which by its very nature attracts rats for food and harbourage, was at one time classed as a reservoir infestation of over 200 rats. Regular systematic treatments where baits and poisons have been changed to overcome predujice of the rats for any one bait or poison, have succeeded in clearing the premises. Although subject to re-infestation from infested deliveries of raw material, frequent and regular treatments are welcomed by the management who gladly pay the full costs, knowing that they are receiving full value from the Council's service.

The following table shows the activities of your Rodent Operative for the year ending March 31st, 1951 :—

No. of visits made	1013
No. of contracts treated (Other than Council Properties)	104
No. of Council Properties treated	69
Amount of prebait laid	6253 ozs.
Amount of poison bait laid	4155 ozs.
Amount of poison bait taken	1710 ozs.
Number of dead rats picked up	1847
Estimated total kill (Ministry formula)	3820

Knackers Yards.

A Licence in respect of a knackers yard at Malpas was renewed. These premises have been operated during the year without complaint.

SCHOOLS

A re-inspection of every school in the District was carried out during the year, and I regret to report that in some cases conditions in relation to water supply, washing accommodation and sanitary conveniences, were not always satisfactory.

The undesirable matters have been brought to the attention of the authorities concerned and I am hoping that improvements will be carried out without delay. Financial consideration is the difficulty in most cases—as well as the absence of the mains water and/or a main sewer.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

- (i) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health & Housing Acts) 851

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head above) inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations (Housing Applications)	232
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	5
(iv) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	43
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:—	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered reasonably fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	37
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling- houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs	nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notices	nil.
(b) Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
Number of premises on which Demolition Orders were made	3
Number of premises on which undertakings were offered by owners	nil.
Number of premises on which undertakings were accepted by the Council	nil.
(c) Public Health Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
Outstanding at end of 1949	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	2
By Local Authority in default of owners	—
Outstanding at end of 1950	—

The Chief Sanitary Inspector, acting as the Chief Housing Officer, keeps the records of applications for Council Houses and generally supervises routine inspection of Council Houses together with changes in tenancies.

At the close of the year the Housing Register showed applications amounting to a total of 413, but in conformity with the usual practice to keep the register reasonably reliable and up to date, all applicants were circularised and requested to re-register with up to date details of their housing need.

On previous occasions when a new register has been started there has been a considerable drop in applications owing to the applicants having secured housing accommodation or having left the district without notifying the department.

At the end of March, 1951, the total applications on the new Register was 253.

More progress in re-housing is shown by the following tables which give the number of new Council Houses tenanted in each year in the various parishes.

Houses Tenanted between Jan. 1st—Dec. 31st.

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Beeston	—	—	—	—	4
Nomansheath, Bickley	—	6	—	—	—
Broxton	—	—	—	4	—
Coddington	—	—	—	1	3
Duddon	—	8	—	—	—
Edge	—	—	—	8	—
Farndon	—	3	21	—	—
Gatesheath	—	—	—	—	8
Kelsall	—	8	—	—	9
Malpas	—	—	11	27	—
Oscroft	—	—	4	2	2
Shocklach	—	—	4	—	—
Tarvin	—	4	—	—	6
Tattenhall (Edgecroft)	1x	1x	—	4	2
Tattenhall	—	16	—	3	13
Tilston	—	—	8	—	4
Waverton	—	—	—	—	4
	1	46	48	49	55

x (Conversion)

This table is compiled from the actual dates from which the rents commenced.

Regulation 68a.

Housing conditions in the district are still such as to warrant the renewal of licences issued under Regulation 68a of the Defence Regulations to permit occupation of condemned cottages which are maintained up to a minimum standard of fitness. Three such licences were renewed during the year in respect of premises on which Demolition Orders are operative.

Housing Act, 1949.

The remarks in my last report concerning the high cost of the provision alone of mains water and sewerage disposal plants to isolated cottages in a rural area have been confirmed in the first year's operation of the Act in relation to this district.

The high cost of these two items takes up a great proportion of the £600 limit, and when building additions are required for a scullery, bedroom, etc., the total cost cannot be kept at a reasonable figure to comply with the Act.

No grants have been made by the Council during 1950.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk.

Number of Milk Distributors Registered	12
Number of Supplementary Licences issued	7

Ice Cream.

During the year one application was received for the manufacture of ice cream under the Food and Drugs Act, 1948. Many improvements were requested and carried out to the premises and the applicant was registered for the manufacture, storage, and sale of ice cream.

Twelve other premises were registered only for the storage and sale of ice cream which is obtained from manufacturers outside the district. The majority of these retailers' premises are registered for the sale of pre-wrapped ice cream. The few travelling retailers who sell in the district during the summer are sampled by your sanitary officers who also keep a close watch on these vendors for cleanliness and hygienic handling of the food.

Eighty-three ice cream samples were taken during the year for analysis; and reports on the conditions of premises where ice cream is manufactured outside this area, are received from the authorities concerned from time to time.

Food Poisoning.

There were no cases of food poisoning notified in the district during the year.

Meat Inspection.

Government control of slaughtering continued during the year, and the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse at Newton Lodge, Newton-by-Tattenhall, continued in operation, serving an area roughly conforming to the Tarvin Rural District, together with the township of Tarporley in the Northwich Rural District.

Slaughterhouse licences were renewed in two instances, being in respect of premises where casualties are dealt with exclusively, the carcasses and edible offals being delivered to the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse after inspection at the place of slaughter.

The Council have been careful in making appointments to see that their Sanitary Inspectors are properly qualified and experienced in the inspection of meat; and the centralisation of slaughtering and practical elimination of private slaughterhouses permits of a hundred per cent inspection of meat intended for human consumption.

It is desirable that the centralisation of slaughtering should be made permanent and that the many small and mostly unsuitable places in the district where regular slaughtering was carried out pre-war should not be re-licensed unless the Council are satisfied (a) that there is urgent need for a slaughterhouse and the central slaughterhouse is inconvenient, and that (b) the premises satisfy the high standard of structure, lairage, water supply, drainage and drainage disposal necessary.

Animal Health Division.

Close co-operation with veterinary officers of the Ministry of Agriculture has been maintained. Several cases of congenital tuberculosis found in calves have been reported to the Animal Health Division, resulting in most cases in recognition of tuberculosis in the dams, which have then been removed from their herds and slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

Details of animals slaughtered for human consumption in the Council's area during the year under review, with particulars of each class of animal found to be unfit for human consumption, are shown in the following table in the form suggested by the Ministry of Health.

Year 1950.	Beasts.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total
Numbers killed	137	1467	344	1308	215	3471
Numbers inspected ..	137	1467	344	1308	215	3471

All Diseases except Tuberculosis.

Whole Carcasses

Condemned	27	186	53	9	15	290
-----------------	----	-----	----	---	----	-----

Part Carcasses

Condemned	40	494	17	111	60	722
-----------------	----	-----	----	-----	----	-----

Percentage affected..	48.9	46.3	20.3	9.2	34.9	29.3
-----------------------	------	------	------	-----	------	------

Tuberculosis Only.

Whole Carcasses

Condemned	4	196	3	—	10	213
-----------------	---	-----	---	---	----	-----

Part Carcasses

Condemned	24	523	1	—	40	588
-----------------	----	-----	---	---	----	-----

Percentage affected..	20.4	49	1.1	—	23.2	23.1
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The figures include SEVEN cows slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938; and 75 beasts, 1186 cows, 338 calves, 60 sheep and 140 pigs dealt with as casualties. The high proportion of casualties may be explained partly by the fact that the District is predominantly pastoral and dairying, and therefore has a high animal population, and partly by the presence within the District of two exclusively Casualty Slaughterhouses.

The total weight of carcase meat and offals found by your Food Inspectors to be unfit for human consumption was 138 tons, 1 cwt., 23 lbs.

Inspection of Other Foods.

The weight of canned meat and other foods at local shops and depots found to be unfit for human consumption was 3 qrs., 14 lbs.

Cysticercous Bovis.

Fourteen cases of cysticercus bovis were discovered during the year, seven cases in cows and seven cases in beasts.

These were sited as follows:—

	External Masseter Muscle.	Internal Masseter Muscle.
Cows	5	2
Beasts	2	5

Details were sent to the Ministry of Food in accordance with Circular MF 5/48. The carcasses were sent for refrigeration for 21 days as recommended by the Ministry of Food.

Food Adulteration.

The following report of work under the adulteration provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, has been supplied by Mr. Stacey Hallard, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Cheshire County Council.

Name of Sample.	Number obtained.	Number Adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality.
Almonds—Ground	1	—
Borax	1	—
Butter	1	—
Camphorated Oil	1	—
Cooking Fat	1	—
Garden Mint in Vinegar	1	—
Glazed Cherries	1	—
Ice Cream	1	—
Indian Brandee	1	—
Margarine	1	—
Milk	23	—
Orange Squash	1	—
Spaghetti in Meat	1	—
Tomatoes Tinned Peeled	1	—
Whiskey	2	—
	<hr/> 38	<hr/> Nil.

SECTION F.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.**

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during
the year 1950.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	11	5	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Enteric and Paratyphoid	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	43	—	3
Cerebro spinal meningitis	2	2	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Measles	67	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Whooping Cough	122	—	—
Totals ...	<hr/> 248	<hr/> 8	<hr/> 3

TUBERCULOSIS**New Cases and Mortality during the year 1950.**

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55-65	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	2	1	—	3	—	—	—

ANNUAL REPORT

ON

Health Services of Ellesmere Port Division for Year 1950.

INTRODUCTION

The Committee has held eleven meetings during the year, the average attendance being sixteen members out of a total membership of thirty-seven.

The Division comprises the Ellesmere Port and Hoole Urban Districts and Chester and Tarvin Rural Districts. The estimated mid-year civilian population is 75,192 (the total civilian and military population is 79,882) and the area is 116,086 acres, which is the equivalent of 0.64 persons per acre. The number of inhabited houses is 20,473, and the combined rateable value is £470,949.

During the year there has been a general development and expansion of the services administered by the Divisional Committee. Sites have been chosen for the construction of new Welfare Centres at Great Sutton and Boughton. A new Welfare Centre was opened in October at the Community Centre at Overpool, and efforts have been made to find suitable accommodation for a Clinic at Ince.

The two Day Nurseries continues to fulfill a useful and necessary purpose in the industrial part of the Division, in spite of increasing costs of maintenance.

Demands on the Ambulance Services have been much greater than in the previous year; this is shown in the number of calls and the increased mileage. The Service has operated with a minimum strength of vehicles and personnel, and has necessitated much overtime to meet these demands and maintain the vehicles in a serviceable condition. There is need for an additional ambulance with driver and attendant to cope with existing commitments; and more adequate depot accommodation for vehicles and personnel is required.

Prevention, Care and After-Care of Tuberculosis continues to cause much anxiety in the face of present difficulties of overcrowding, housing shortages and limited hospital and sanatorium accommodation, and will do so as long as these conditions remain. A decisive step forward in the control of this scourge has been made in the development of Mass Radiography and B.C.G. Vaccination, which promises well for the future.

The problem of the aged and chronic sick shows little sign of improvement in relation to limited hospital and hostel accommodation; though the increasing use of the Domestic Help Service in these cases has proved a great help in alleviating the distress of caring for these chronic cases in their homes. Indeed the great expansion of the Domestic Help Service has been largely due to the needs of the aged and chronic sick. This is a costly service, as the majority of cases are not able to pay the full amount required to meet the costs. Efforts have been made in the Division to keep these costs at a minimum level by care in the selection of cases and hours worked. Furthermore, it has been found that the employment of temporary domestic helps, which are fortunately available in this area, is more economical than the appointment of permanent helps.

Opportunity has been sought during the year on suitable occasions to exhibit posters and distribute leaflets on various aspects of Health Education at clinics, public libraries, baby shows, etc. In addition addresses have been given by the Divisional Medical Officer on the scope and functions of the National Health Service to the Ellesmere Port Townswomen's Guild and the Hoole Old People's Welfare Committee.

REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950.

N.C.H. Act, 1946 (Section 22) — Care of Mothers and Young Children.

	New Cases.	Total Attendances.
A—Mother's Clinics:—		
Ante-Natal	428	2528
Post-Natal	47	60
Dental:—		
Pre-Natal	10	16
Nursing Mothers	7	23
Dentures Supplied		12
B—Young Children's Clinics:—		
(1) Infant Welfare—		
To 1 year	871	8218
1—5 years	1331	4234
(2) Specialist—		
Ophthalmic	53	182
Dental Treatment (Under 5)	63	73
E.N.T. (Under 5)	45	50

(3) Day Nurseries :—

Daily Average Total
No. Attending. Attendances

Aged 0—2 years 14 3497

Aged 2—5 years 50 12763

Details of figures given below (where they relate to more than one Clinic) are shown hereunder :—

Eye Clinics :—

Total
New Cases. Attendances.

Hoole 20 44

Ellesmere Port 33 138

53 182

M.O.H. Report South-West Cheshire 13

Number of children under five for whom spectacles were prescribed 19

Number of cases recommended for hospital treatment 2

Ante and Post Natal Clinics :—

Hoole—

Ante-Natal 35 108

Post-Natal 47 60

Ellesmere Port—

Ante-Natal 393 2420

Post-Natal — —

Day Nurseries :—

Daily Average Total
No. Attending. Attendances.

Ellesmere Port—

Aged 0—2 years 10 2500

Aged 2—5 years 25 6521

Little Sutton—

Aged 0—2 years 4 997

Aged 2—5 years 25 6242

Welfare Centres:—	New Cases,		Total Attendances.	
	0—1	1—5	0—1	1—5
Barrow	13	2	131	106
Ellesmere Port	361	1263	2658	2063
Farndon	35	5	291	97
Hoole	133	17	1353	290
Huntington	28	8	197	194
Kelsall	38	6	341	331
Little Sutton	102	2	1485	262
Malpas	32	2	237	118
Saughall	26	5	257	135
Upton	45	8	710	248
Tattenhall	24	6	247	216
Tarvin	20	1	274	155
Overpool (a)	14	6	37	19
Totals ...	871	1331	8218	4234

(a) Opened 19-10-50.

Special Comments.

Welfare Centre:—

There have been few new developments during the year, but a number of improvements have been carried out at the Ellesmere Port and Little Sutton Centres. The latter was transferred, as a temporary measure, from the Railway Inn to more suitable accommodation at the Methodist Hall, Little Sutton, on 1st May, 1950.

At Ellesmere Port the recommendations of the Committee with regard to the Storeroom and the internal and external decorations were implemented. In addition, new curtains have been provided and the Pram shelter has been converted into a lock-up shed. New gates and railings were erected to replace those removed during World War II and to provide a measure of protection for the property.

A new Centre was opened at Overpool on 19th October, 1950.

Recommendations for the opening of Centres at Mouldsworth, Tilston, and Ince were investigated but were not proceeded with due to an insufficient demand in the first two cases and lack of accommodation in the third.

A site was chosen for the proposed Gt. Boughton Centre, and the Chester Rural District Council have agreed to make it available. Negotiations for the purchase of the site were put in hand and the plans for the Centre approved by the Committee.

In order that there should be no hitch in the proposals for the new Welfare Centre at Gt. Sutton, and in view of possible unwillingness on the part of the owners of the site to negotiate a sale, it was recommended that County Council acquire the land by means of compulsory powers.

Day Nurseries.

The appearance of the Nurseries has undergone a pleasing change during the year with the completion of the various repairs, internal decorations and external painting.

The charges for attendance of children at the Nurseries were increased twice during the year; from 1s. od. to 1s. 6d. per day from 27th February, and again to 2s. od. per day with effect from 4th December, due to the increasing costs of maintenance, etc.

Two burglaries took place at Ellesmere Port Nursery during the year, but nothing was taken on either occasion.

Epidemic of Measles, Whooping Cough and Influenza Colds reduced attendance figures at both Nurseries at various times during the year, but generally speaking attendances were quite good.

Mrs. S. Hunt resigned as Matron of the Little Sutton Nursery and Mrs. M. J. Broomfield was appointed as from 1st May, 1950.

At the request of the Ministry of Labour, Ellesmere Port, arrangements were made for longer opening hours at Little Sutton. This new arrangement commenced in August and is still in operation. As a result approximately ten Ellesmere Port children are attending the Nursery at Little Sutton.

With the improvements effected in the Nurseries, consent has now been given by the Ministry of Health for the use of the Ellesmere Port Nursery as a training Nursery for children 0—2 years. It was, therefore, decided by the Divisional Committee to recommend the adoption, by the County Health Committee, of the principle of the appointment of a Certified Nursery Nurse in place of a Probationer.

The Committee continually expressed their concern during the year at the high costs of the Nurseries, and in an endeavour to reduce expenses, appointed a Ladies' Sub-Committee to go into the question. On investigation reductions in the costs of feeding did not appear possible in view of the recommendations of the Ministry of Health's Dietician. A request, however, was addressed to both Matrons to keep a very careful watch on costs.

The Committee's concern was underlined by a report submitted by the County Treasurer on Expenditure on Day Nurseries throughout the Administrative County during the financial year 1949-50.

(SECTION 23).

MIDWIVES.

A. Number of births:—

(Adjusted for inward and outward transfers)—1583 (Including 25 Stillbirths).

B. Accommodation and Maintenance:—

Nothing to Report.

C. Transport:—

Nothing to Report.

(SECTION 25).

HOME NURSING.

Authority for some household equipment and an extensive programme of repairs and decorations were recommended for the District Nurse's home at Mouldsworth. Elsewhere in the Division some minor repairs and replacements were put in hand.

Several County owned cars used by District Nurse Midwives were overhauled and recommendations were made for the replacement of two cars. One new car has been delivered.

Loan of Nursing Requisites.

All the District Nurses possess common items of nursing equipment, which are available for loan to patients. The larger items of equipment, i.e. wheelchairs, air beds, etc., are obtainable from the Divisional Office through the District Nurse or by direct application to the office.

Considerable and increasing use is being made of this service by the public.

(SECTION 26).

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

With the conclusion of successful negotiations relating to fees, between the British Medical Association and the Ministry of Health a boost has been given to vaccination and immunisation in the Divisional area. Fees have been paid up to 31st December, 1950.

The scheme continues to operate through the General Practitioner; in addition sessions are held at Ellesmere Port and Little Sutton monthly, at which the local doctors attend by rota, in order that groups of children, whose attendance has mainly been secured by the Health Visitors, may be inoculated.

Total Fees paid for the period 5-7-48—30-6-50 amounted to £544 5s. od.

Statistics are as follows :—

A. Vaccination.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1. Primary Vaccination—			
(1) Pre-School Children	283	247	530
(2) School Children	17	20	27
(3) Adults	11	26	37
Total ...	311	293	604
11. Re-Vaccination—			
(1) Pre-School Children	1	—	1
(2) School Children	4	8	12
(3) Adults	73	152	225
Total ...	78	160	238
B. Diphtheria Immunisation.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Incomplete.			
(1) Pre-School Children	34	29	63
(2) School Children	2	1	3
Total ...	36	30	66
Completed.	Males.	Females.	Total.
(1) Pre-School Children	325	371	696
(2) School Children	10	5	15
Total ...	335	376	711
Re-Immunisation.			
All Children	48	62	110
C. Other Immunisation (e.g. Whooping Cough).			
	Males.	Females.	Total.
(1) Pre-School Children	28	46	74
(2) School Children	3	—	3
Total ...	31	46	77

These figures are not final as records are still being received for services performed during 1950.

(SECTION 27).

AMBULANCE SERVICES.

	1	2	3	4	5
	No. of Vehicles	Total No. of Journeys	Total No. Patients carried	No. of Accident and Emergency Journeys included in Column 3	Total Mileage
A. Directly (Amb. 3 3221 (6)* Provided (Cars 2 2204 (1)*			4869 (6)* 3418 (1)*	564 51193 (160)* 26 47502 (16)*	
B. By Agency					
(Amb. 5 801			801	165 14172	
(Cars — —			—	— —	
(Chester City Amb.)					
C. Supplementary					
(Amb. — —			—	— —	
(Cars — 1071			1193	— 21810	
(W.V.S. Taxi, etc.)					
D. No. of Drivers (other than Commercial) available for Supplementary Services included in "C" above...					10

* Journeys performed on behalf of other local Health Authorities.

It will be observed from the table set out above that mileage performed by vehicles of the Divisional Ambulance Service has increased considerably during the past year, viz.:—

	Mileage 1949.	Mileage 1950.	Total Increase.
C.C.C. Ambulanees	37835	51193	13358
C.C.C. Cars	17283	47502	30219
Totals ...	55118	98695	43577

Some of the increase is due to the operation of the terms of the National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1949, which came into effect in the Administrative County from 1st February, 1950. These provisions placed the responsibility for the transport of patients, who are discharged from hospital within three months from the date of admission, on the Local Health Authority from whose area the patient was admitted.

Here again Members of the Divisional Committee expressed their concern at the mounting costs of the Service, and a letter was sent in this connection to all General Practitioners within the Division. A Statement of costs prepared by the County Treasurer on the operation of the Ambulance Service throughout the Administrative County revealed that a 6d. rate is now necessary to maintain the Service, whereas, prior to 5th July, 1948, it was sustained by a rate of 1½d.

Two new ambulances were delivered during the year as follows:—

Date of Delivery.	Make.	Reg. No.	H.P.
27th March, 1950	Humber	MLG 928.	27
9th October, 1950	Commer	MMB 281	27
			(Transferred from Deeside Division)

The Humber replaced Austin Ambulance LG 3643 which was handed over to the County Civil Defence Authorities for use as a mobile gas demonstration chamber.

A County Committee, which included Divisional representatives, was formed to consider the standardisation of uniforms throughout the County. As a result of its findings, recommendations were made for the purchase of new uniforms for personnel of this Division at a cost of £130.

A complaint made by the Ellesmere Port Medical Practitioners relating to certain aspects of the Ambulance Services of this Division resulted in a Sub-Committee being formed to investigate present arrangements within the Division in this and other connections. An interim report was submitted to the Main Committee, when a further three members were appointed to the Sub-Committee in order to investigate more fully the Services provided.

Unsuccessful efforts were made early in the year by two Committee Members to replace the present Ford Sitting Case Car with a larger and more suitable type of vehicle. A resolution of the Committee has now been passed asking the County Health Committee to effect replacement, and for the Ford Car to be transferred to a District Nurse or County Midwife.

At a Meeting held on the 5th January, 1950, dealing with future planning in the Ellesmere Port Urban District, with regard to the Services provided by the Local Health Authority, consideration was given to a proposal for the erection of a permanent Ambulance Depot. This matter is at present under review by the Sub-Committee referred to above.

The establishment of vehicles and personnel as fixed by the Divisional Committee and approved by the County Staffing Committee is as follows:—

Vehicles.		Personnel.	
Ambulances	3	Senior Driver	1
Sitting Case Cars	2	Ambulance Drivers	2
		Ambulance Attendants ..	3
		Sitting Case Car Drivers	2
		Part Time Drivers	2
	—		—
	5		10
	—		—

(SECTION 28).

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS—CARE AND AFTER-CARE TUBERCULOSIS.

A. No. of Cases investigated in Division:—

(1) Tuberculosis—

(a) No. of forms C. & A.C.4 completed	186
(Primary Investigation)	
(b) No. of forms C. & A.C.22 completed	129
(Follow-up Visits)	
(c) No. of Cases where Patient has been found to have (a) Removed from area. (b) Been lost sight of. (c) Been cured, etc.	82

(2) Other than Tuberculosis.

All cases of chronic illness awaiting admission to chronic wards or suitable Institutions are now visited regularly by Health Visitors until admission is effected.

Several cases were investigated by the Divisional Medical Officer and one was found suitable for Part III accommodation.

B. Number of cases placed in employment (Disabled Persons Acts) Nil

C. Particulars of loans of nursing equipment charges made and details of applicants unable to pay full amount:—

One case was brought to the attention of the Committee of a person unable to meet deposit and rental charges in connection with the loan of a Dunlopillo Mattress. It was decided to ask a nominal deposit of 1/- and to waive the rental charges.

A Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Sub-Committee was formed in January, 1950, in accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and after due consideration it was decided that Meetings of the Sub-Committee should be held as and when considered necessary.

A shelter has been provided for a patient in the Division, and repairs carried out on the Shelter used by another patient.

The No. 3 Mass Radiography Unit visited the Ellesmere Port District from 17th April, 1950, for three months, providing a valuable aid in connection with Prevention, Care and After-Care in this Division.

Two cases have received convalescent treatment during the year, under the County Council Scheme; one a child suffering from malnutrition and the other an old lady who was recovering from an illness.

Members of the Committee and officials visited the Wrenbury Tuberculosis Colony on 12th July, 1950. The excellent work being carried out at this establishment was very highly commended by the Committee.

Supplies of sputum mugs and flasks are held at the Divisional Office and at Ellesmere Port Child Welfare Centre for loan free of charge to suitable cases.

Statistics relating to Tuberculosis Cases on the Notifications Register are given on the following page.

Statistics relating to cases of Tuberculosis on Notification Registers of District Councils in the Division.

	MALES.			FEMALES.			TOTALS.		
	Pulmon-ary	Non Pulmon-ary	Total	Pulmon-ary	Non Pulmon-ary	Total	Pulmon-ary	Non Pulmon-ary	Total Cases
1. Cases on Register at 1-1-50.	154	97	251	134	74	208	288	171	459
2. Cases notified & transfers into area during the year.	44	5	49	37	8	45	81	13	94
3. Number of cases removed from register during the year.	31	25	56	11	15	26	42	40	82
4. Cases on Register at 31-12-50.	167	77	244	160	67	227	327	144	471*

*This figure is made up as follows:—

	Pulmonary.	Non Pulmonary.	Total.
1. Ellesmere Port U.D.	161	69	230
2. Hoole U.D.	38	9	47
3. Chester R.D.	69	28	97
4. Tarvin R.D.	59	38	97
Totals ...	327	144	471

(SECTION 29).

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

There has been an increasing demand on this service during the year as it has become more widely known to members of the public. This has resulted in a rise in costs despite all efforts to economise.

Various suggestions have been circulated to Health Visitors in an endeavour to keep costs to a minimum and still maintain efficiency. A Statement prepared by the County Treasurer of expenditure during the financial year 1949-50 shows that if temporary, rather than permanent, helps can be employed, then costs can be kept within bounds.

As a result of a suggestion by the County Treasurer an attempt was made to persuade the National Assistance Board to make a small contribution towards the cost of cases where no contributions were being received. This met with some initial success, but, due to causes unknown, the arrangement has broken down, and negotiations are now proceeding between the County Treasurer and the National Assistance Board with a view to regularising the position.

Contributions received during the period 1st January—31st December, 1950, amounted to £971 7s. od.

A. Number of New Applicants	177
B. Number of Domestic Helps working—	
(a) Permanent	1
(b) Temporary	118
C. Number of Cases attended	180
D. Special cases for report	24

Twenty-four cases were brought to the attention of the Committee during the year. In fifteen cases the contributions was reduced; in five cases no contribution was required; contributions outstanding in two cases, amounting in all to £1 5s. 4d., were written off as irrecoverable; no reduction was made in one case and in the other payment was pressed for and the amount in question was eventually recovered.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—PART III.

During the year I carried out my usual visits to Shotwick House, Gt. Saughall, in my capacity as the representative of the County Medical Officer of Health. On the first occasion in June, Members of the Divisional Committee also attended; a visit which was enjoyed by all present, and a subsequent resolution of the Committee to the County Council expressed the Members' appreciation of all that is being done for the comfort, happiness, and well being of the residents.

Several changes have occurred in the past year amongst the residents at Shotwick House, but, nevertheless, it is still fully occupied with sixty-two old people, and a waiting list continues to be maintained.

LAYING OUT OF DECEASED PERSONS.

As a result of a resolution of this Committee, representations were made to the Minister of Health for action to be taken with a view to amending the National Health Service Act, 1946, to make provision for this essential service.

ESTIMATES 1951-52.

The estimates for the year 1951-52 were submitted, and the following summary was recommended to the County Health Committee for approval and inclusion in the block estimates, viz.:—

	£
Vaccination and Immunisation	578
Domestic Help Service	6283
Ambulance Service	11228
Health Propaganda	50
Child Welfare Centres	4561
Day Nurseries, Ellesmere Port and Little Sutton	11813
Ante-Natal Clinic, Ellesmere Port	470
Home Nursing	850
Occupational Therapy	50
Convalescent Treatment for Mothers and Babies	50
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care	250
Administration	3587
Total ...	<u>39770</u>

